



News Release

Office of the Metro Auditor

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Audit reviews employee leave at Metro

The Office of the Metro Auditor released an audit today about Metro employee leave patterns entitled *Leave Management: Improve monitoring capacity*. The audit found variations among Metro departments and recommended that management systematically monitor employee absences as other jurisdictions in the region do.

Auditors reviewed Metro employees' use of vacation, sick and other types of leave in two fiscal years. Differences were seen among Metro departments. Leave as a percent of total work time available ranged from 11% to almost 19% when analyzed by department. Auditors also found that employees took on average 34.7 days of leave in FY2008-09, representing 15% of total work time available.

"Studying leave use can assist governments in many ways," Metro Auditor Suzanne Flynn said. "It can potentially improve effectiveness and morale or save money." Auditor Flynn stated further the use of leave can be an indicator of work site problems or lack of consistent management practices. She noted that Metro has been very interested in the information the audit provided and plans to talk to other jurisdictions about best practices.

The audit is available on the Metro website at <http://www.oregonmetro.gov/auditor>. Copies of the audit can also be obtained by calling the Office of the Metro Auditor at 503-797-1892. The Metro Auditor will brief the Metro Council on October 7, 2010.